



REV. H. T. JOHNSON, D. D.

Editor Christian Recorder, Who Recently won a law suit for \$10,000

FARMER'S CONFERENCE**The Real Problem Being Solved—News Notes**

Columbia, S. C., Special.—I noticed an article in the morning state paper of this city, concerning the colored farmers' conference, lately organized in Beaufort county. The purpose of the organization is to promote education and independence of the colored people of this section. In my opinion it is a good idea in all but the colored farmers in other localities don't follow the example of their Beaufort brothers.

But the colored farmers of this state are awakening to the fact that it is high time to abolish the mortgage system, which deprives them of the real value of their produce, and causes them to pay low prices for their provisions.

About 9 o'clock Friday morning, February 20th, a fatal accident happened in the mill district of this city. Friday morning, Charles Young, Philip Alston, and Charles Washington, reported for duty at the Stewart quarry, at which they had been employed for a number of years, after putting in their report, they ascended into the great yawning chasm in the stony breast of Mother Earth. Charles was powder man for the company; Alston was a driller, and Young, a laborer, the men had taken with them a box of dynamite, which was necessary to their work, no one knows how the accident happened, but shortly afterwards a terrible sound was heard and the men were hurled heavenwards in a volume of smoke. They fell in mangled masses of flesh and bone. A large crowd gathered to witness the scene.

MOSES F. JACKSON.

FATHER TIME.**A Thriving Maryland Town—Local News**

Fairmont, Md., Special.—While the sun was slowly sinking behind the western hills, the angel of death passed over the abode, summoning him who has become bent with the weight of years and tired on his journey, he laid down by the wayside, taking his burden for a pillow, he fell into that dreamless sleep which kisses his eyelids still. Such was Mr. Joshua M. Beckett, born 1830, in Accomac county, Virginia. Being a slave for twenty-nine years, he received his liberty may 30th, 1859, shortly after he moved to Fairmount, Mo., at which place he remained until he died, Sat-

urday 21st, 1903. While here he married, Mrs. Mary Bowser, having two children, Estella and Marcelena Beckett. His wife and youngest daughter, Marcelena Waters survive him. The bereaved family has the sympathy of the community in this, their hour of sorrow.

Miss Ada Custus, a student of the Princess Anne Academy, spent two days here on a visit to her parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Custus. The fourth quarterly conference of Centennial M. E. Church was held Feb. 9th, with presiding elder J. R. Waters, D. D. In the chair, and H. S. Wilson, Secretary. The financial records of the church amounts to \$1,209.68, Rev. J. F. Mollack, the pastor. Too much cannot be said of him for his energetic work, notwithstanding the fact that nearly two-thirds of the congregation has been away all the winter.

Miss Lelia Carroll is visiting the Misses Annie and Martha Waters. Miss Sarah Hall is visiting Miss Lillian B. Waters. Rev. Robert H. Boggs, left here Saturday for Rock Creek, where he is pastor. Mr. F. D. Jones has been quite alarmed over his hot-bed during would be frosted.

The schooner Rosa Boggs, belonging to Robert N. Boggs, was driven upon the shore during the storm and damaged.

ALBANY, NEW YORK ITEMS.

Albany, N. Y., Special.—Mrs. Albert Anthony is very low, with general debility. Her sister-in-law is looking after her.

Mrs. Wiley Wilson, of West Albany, who has been ill for some time is about the same.

Mr. Raphael Cisneros has recovered from a slight attack of pneumonia, from which he has been suffering.

Miss Christine Egbert has been confined to her room for a few days with a heavy cold.

Mr. Wm. H. Brent is also on the sick list, being confined to his home with a cold.

Dr. Wm. H. Johnson exhibited his panorama, Friday night, at 584 Broadway. It was attended by a large audience, who expressed their appreciation by generous applause.

Mr. Chas. Shelly, of North Adams, Mass., was in the city for a short stay among friends.

Among those who observed the holiday by giving Martha Washington tea parties, were Mrs. J. W. Price, Mrs. R. M. Madison, Mrs. E. D. Thompson, Mrs. G. A. Williams, Mrs. Wm. H. Johnson, Mrs. Plato, Miss Lavinia Williams, Miss Virginia Lewis and Miss Maymia Holt.

The "Household" gave their annual reception last week, which was well attended, and a large amount was realized.

The "Odd Fellows" enrolled five new members last Monday evening.

Mr. John Erving stopped with his sister-in-law last week to straighten out a few matters before leaving for Boston.

The Cooks and Waiters' Union of the N. Y. C. Dining Car Service held a meeting recently which was largely attended, and good results were reported.

James Raison, of Brooklyn, received his appointment as messenger at the Capitol last week. Fred Johnson, a candidate for another position, has been unsuccessful as yet.

DELIGHTED WITH OUR STORY.

Lexington, Ky.—I have to hand your paper of 17th inst., accompanied by a most excellent likeness of the Great Booker Washington, and simply write this to express my thanks and appreciation of the same. We have Mr. Washington at the Lexington Opera House June 6th, and are making preparation for a big time for him. Both races are much interested. Will write the matter up and send account to you.

Enclosed please find clipping from the most popular daily in Lexington, which was called forth from the pen of Editor Moore, of the *Blue Grass Blade*, because of an invitation by one Gen. Gentry, an ex-Confederate, to entertain Mr. Washington to a rabbit chase. Glad to see you so loyally and royally wield your pen in defense of Mr. Washington. Surely you have done much for the cause he so manfully advocates. The AMERICAN is all right. With best wishes I am,

Yours etc.,

P. D. R.

ANOTHER PROGRESSIVE MOVE.

The supplement to THE COLORED AMERICAN in the way of a beautiful engraving of the distinguished Booker T. Washington is another progressive move in Negro journalism.—*Arkansas Appreciator*.

The Cincinnati Enquirer has recently published a highly complimentary article on Howard University, and its esteemed President, Dr. Rankin.

Judge Emory Speer, of Georgia, is one southern white man who recognizes the wrongs of the Negro and his position gives him opportunity for practical sympathy.

We have been reading of a colored newspaper man in Springfield Ill., who in addition to his journalistic duties, runs a restaurant, a bar room and a pool room. For versatility, where can you find a newspaper man's peer?

While the colored editors are fighting among themselves, the Southern white press is molding sentiment; and enacting laws against the colored people.

Another and probably the last of the Old Guard who battled for the rights of the Negro and for the passage of the constitutional amendments, has gone to his reward, in the person of ex-Senator Henry L. Dawes, of Massachusetts.

J. Milton Turner looms up a most formidable candidate for Chief Commissioner of the race's exhibit at St. Louis.

Mr. J. T. Tascos, a well known attaché of Messrs. Parker Bridget & Co., was agreeably surprised on Thursday evening, of last week, at his residence, 909 W street, northwest. About thirty friends gathered to celebrate his 14th anniversary. It was a few weeks ahead of time, but Mr. and Mrs. Tascos entertained their friends in a royal manner, and everything passed off very pleasantly. A mandolin club enlivened the occasion with music. Among those present were Col. James W. Jackson, J. H. Lomax, Wm. Walker, John A. Cooper, Wm. Tibbs, Howard Green, Wm. Poindexter, Edward Brooks and many others.

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